

should be chastised. She may be naturally irritable, and, worse still her natural irritability may never have been checked by the restraining power of early education; but there is a deeper and fuller restraining influence than ever, that namely, the principle of love to God; and the cultivation of this love in the heart will lead to a prayer for holiness of heart and lip, which never goes up to heaven unanswered, and to a constant and earnest striving with a besetting sin, which God's Holy Spirit will aid and bless. Knowing as we do the great influence which family training has on the world at large, we cannot wonder that He who divided mankind into families should so command the woman who looked well to the ways of those who composed the circle which she superintends. The constant recognition of family duties, the emphatic injunctions that women should be keepers at home, and love their husbands and love their children all lead us to the remembrance that God is not only the God of each individual, but that he is indeed the God of all families. There is something so endearing in the ties which weave around the early home, that every human heart feels their power. The gentle words of a mother's love, the counsels of a father's wisdom, how do they return with freshness upon the spirit long after the lips which uttered them have mingled with the dust, and are awakened with all their power by some little incident, some casual word, the sight of a handwriting, or the scent of a flower. When God gives to a mother's care a helpless child, what a solemn charge does the mother receive! A being born for eternity, a creature destined to everlasting happiness or misery, is committed to her, and its future character and destiny in a great measure dependent on her instruction and example.

Now in conclusion, dear readers, fathers and mothers above all things be kind and loving to your children; provoke not them to anger, teaching them to observe all things which God has commanded us to do.

*Cerro Gordo, Ill.*

#### Why Mary Was Liked

I read a story the other day about a little girl name Mary, and I thought you would like to read it, too, so here it is:

A queer old man once made a tea-party for the little girls in the town; and when they had all come and were gathered in his front yard, he offered a doll for the most popular little girl, and asked them all to vote which should have the prize. But many of them did not know what "most popular" meant. So he told them it was the best-liked little girl.

Then they all voted, and Mary was the one who had the most votes and received the doll, tho no one could say she was either the prettiest or the cleverest of them all.

"Now," said the queer old man, "I will give another doll to the one who first tells me why you all like Mary the best.

Nobody answered at first. But presently one of them spoke up and said: "It is be-

cause Mary always finds out what the rest of us want to play, and then says, 'Let's play that.'"

That was a good answer, and it showed what a beautiful, unselfish disposition Mary had. No wonder that all the other little girls liked her, and that she was voted the most popular little girl in town.

#### Tom's Gold-Dust

Young Reaper.

"That boy knows how to take care of his gold-dust," said Tom's uncle often to himself, and sometimes aloud.

Tom went to college, and every account they heard of him he was going ahead, laying a solid foundation for the future.

"Certainly," said his uncle, "certainly; that boy I tell you, knows how to take care of his gold-dust."

"Gold-dust?" Where did Tom get gold-dust? He was a poor boy. He had not been to California. He never was a miner. When did he get gold-dust? Ah, he has seconds and minutes—specks and particles of time which boys and girls and grown-up people are apt to waste and throw away. Tom knew their value. His father had taught him that every speck and particle of time was worth its weight in gold; and his son took care of them as if they were. Take care of your gold-dust!

#### Telling About Jesus

Selected.

Fannie was very fond of her grandpa and loved to run errands for him and read to him when his eyes were tired and weak. Sometimes when he had finished the newspaper she would say:

"Now I will read you my story, Grandpa," and would get the Bible and read about the wise men who followed the star that led them to Jesus.

One day after she had read this beautiful story, she said,

"Grandpa, you are a wise man; but you didn't have to take a long journey to find Jesus, did you?"

"Why do you think so?" asked grandpa.

"Because Jesus is right near us all the time; we have only to whisper to him and he hears us."

When grandpa was taken sick and all the family gathered around him to say "good-bye" before he died, he said to Fannie:

"Good-bye, my darling; when I get to heaven I'll tell the blessed Savior that you were my star."

"Why, grandpa?" asked Fannie, with tears in her eyes.

"Because you led me to Jesus. Your loving words and deeds have been to me like the light of the star to the wise men."

There is no trouble about guidance, if only we want to be guided. The trouble lies here,—that we want to lead, not to be guided. Thus we fall into the ditch and possibly lead some one else there also. God has made abundant provision for our guidance in the smallest matters, if only we will avail ourselves of it.—A. F. Schauffler, D. D.

## Sisters' Society C. E.

From the President

*Dear Readers:*—What was said last week in regard to foreign missions may be considered by some out of place for the S. S. C. E. column. But the constitution strongly demands it.

A part of the object under the second article is "to do general and local mission and church work, in fewer words—to do general mission work, home and foreign. According to this the members of our organization are expected to do foreign mission work as truly as home, or in short, to be world-wide missionaries.

We can work for the heathens every day, holding them up in prayer before the Lord who has promised to answer and give thru the local treasurer of our means which will form a foreign missionary fund in our National S. S. C. E., and that will help to swell the account under the General Mission Board.

I am glad it is possible for us to do actual work for the heathens even tho we are not with them in person, and any one who does not thus work for them can't truthfully say they believe in Foreign Missions. If you say you are sorry to see them live in such utter darkness, and "yet ye give them not the things needful what doth it profit?" "Faith if it have no works is dead."

There isn't much ground for the fear of any one becoming too much occupied with the cause of the heathens so that the home work is neglected.

The Foreign Missionary spirit indicates a love for the whole world and inspires us to work for souls wherever we are, doing with our might what our hands find to do, the doing being always something that will lead to the salvation of souls.

The project for special work which the sisters have on foot at present, is a plan to erect the Brethren chapel in Washington, D. C. Plans are not complete nor yet definite, but suffice it to say it is on the "brick" plan as suggested by Sister Beachly of Meyersdale, Pa., and is very practical, needing the local officers but to understand it, in order to become interested, that the entire society may then be enlisted to lay brick.

Cards are printed that represent the bricks at ten cents each, low enough that every Sunday school child may buy a brick, also low enough that every sister in the S. S. C. E. may buy ten, if she begins now to earn an extra dollar this summer for the work. We'll be able to give a clearer and fuller explanation of the scheme after the conference at Pittsburgh when we shall see just what the Pennsylvania sisters are ready to do.

We want every society of the State represented there, and above all, don't fail to report your year's work. Many of the societies that are yet young may have but a few meetings to report, but don't let that keep you from responding to the call by your state president. It is one of the little matters which if not attended to, result in loss to yourself and the cause.

VIANNA DETWILER.